

ABSOLUTE

MARTIAN MANHUNTER™



ALL IN

15+
TEEN+

6



CAMP
RODRÍGUEZ

IT'S A NEW DAY IN GOTHAM.

BATMAN

#1

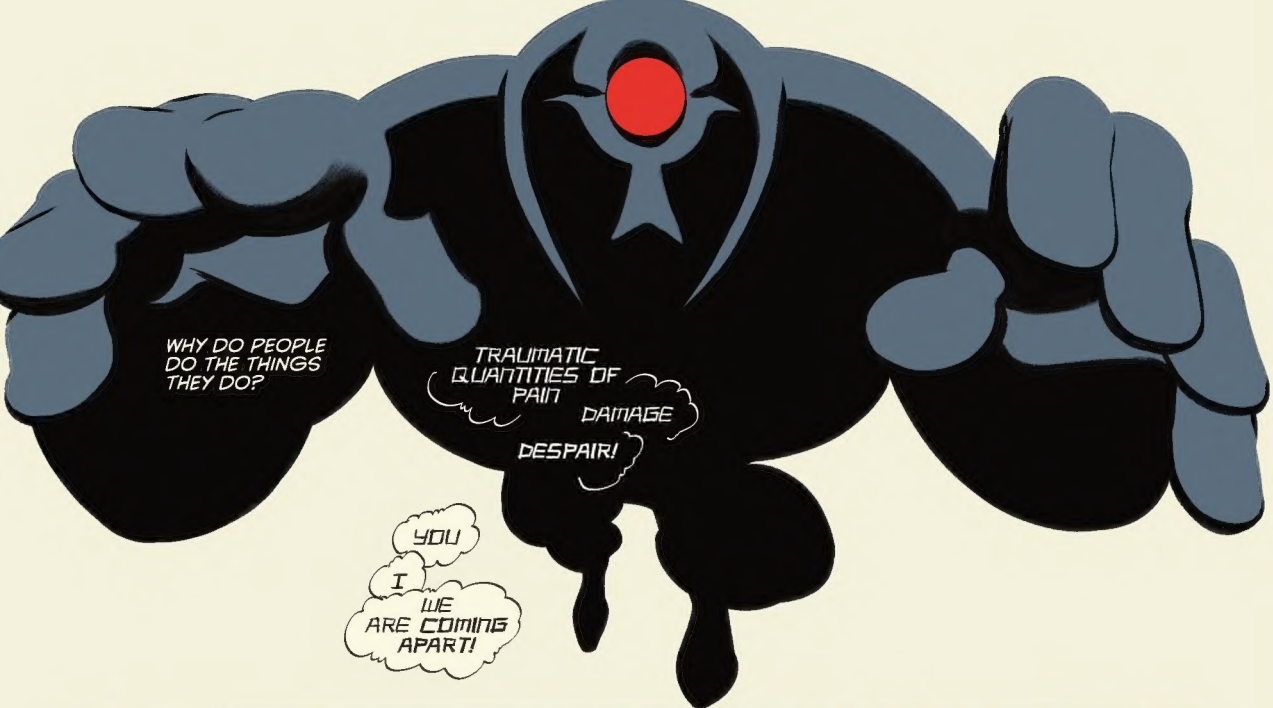
Superstars
MATT FRACTION
and **JORGE JIMÉNEZ**
introduce an unforgettable
era of monthly adventures
starring the Caped Crusader



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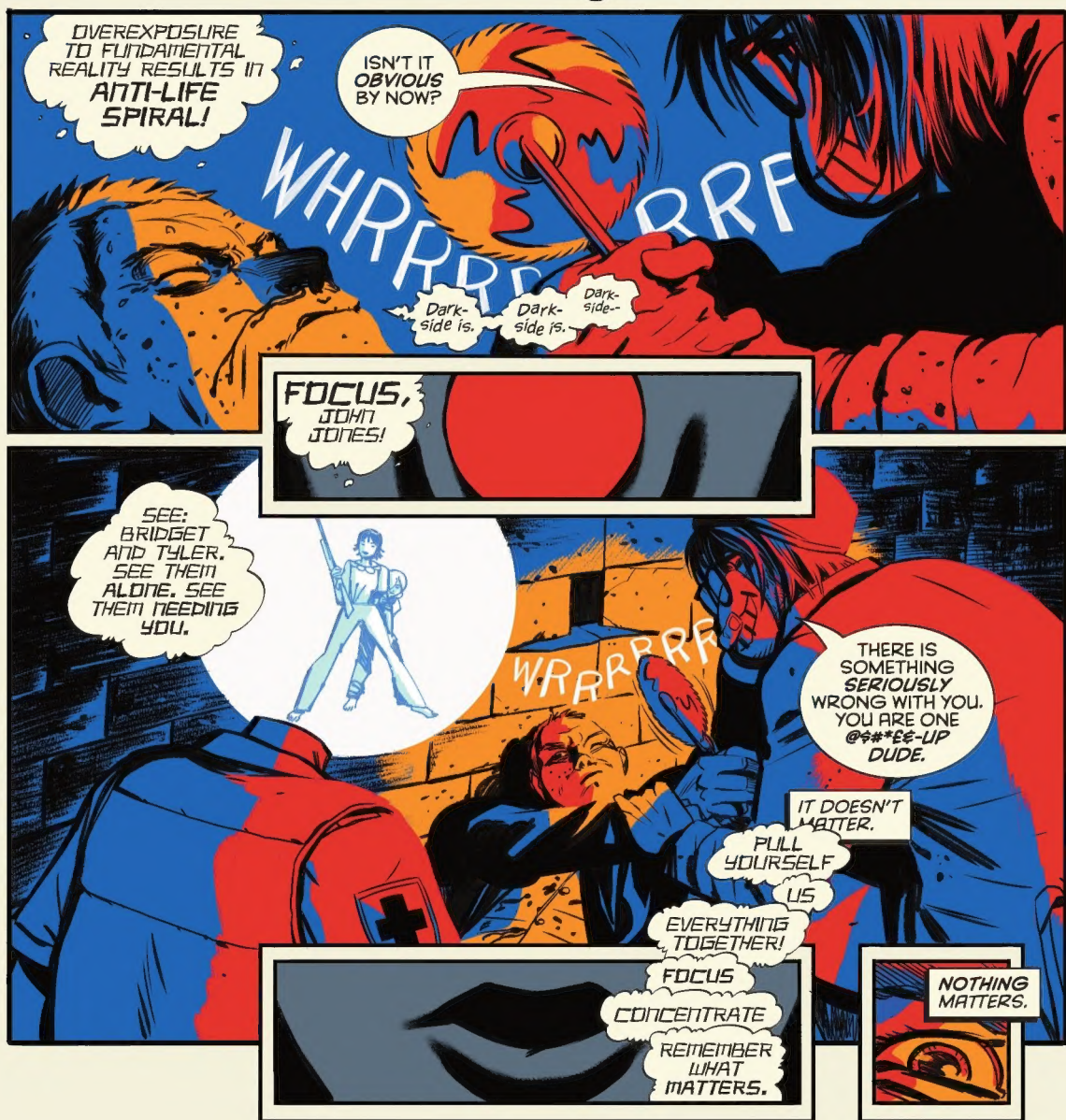
A fresh start for
DC's flagship
series begins in
SEPTEMBER



WHY DO PEOPLE
DO THE THINGS
THEY DO?

TRAUMATIC
QUANTITIES OF
PAIN
DAMAGE
DESPAIR!

YOU
I
WE
ARE COMING
APART!



OVEREXPOSURE
TO FUNDAMENTAL
REALITY RESULTS IN
ANTI-LIFE
SPIRAL!

ISN'T IT
OBVIOUS
BY NOW?

WHRRRRRR

Dark-
side is.
Dark-
side is.
Dark-
side--

FOCUS,
JOHN
JONES!

SEE:
BRIDGET
AND TYLER.
SEE THEM
ALONE. SEE
THEM NEEDING
YOU.



WHRRRRRR

THERE IS
SOMETHING
SERIOUSLY
WRONG WITH YOU.
YOU ARE ONE
@\$\$*EE-UP
DUDE.

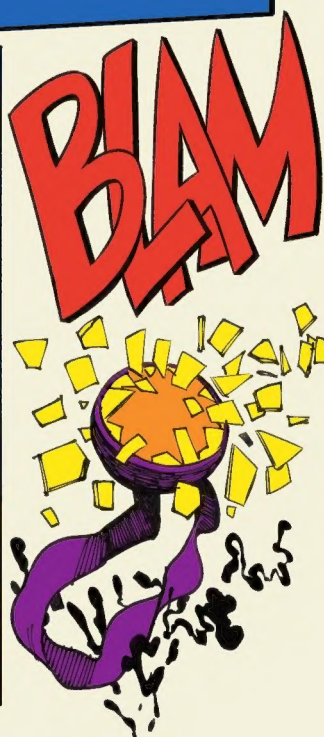
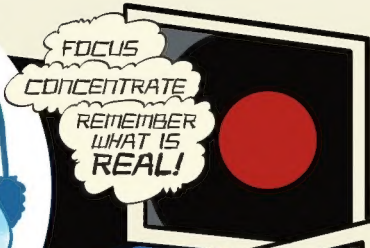
IT DOESN'T
MATTER.

PULL
YOURSELF
US

EVERYTHING
TOGETHER!

FOCUS
CONCENTRATE
REMEMBER
WHAT
MATTERS.

NOTHING
MATTERS.





SEEP
MOSTLY
NOTHING.



OPEN
YOUR
OUR

MY
EYE!

MY
FAMILY--
need to find--
SAVE MY--

IN MY
PROFESSIONAL
OPINION THERE'S
NO SAVING
ANYONE.



BUT IF WE
ACCEPT THAT--
ACCEPT IT DEEP DOWN--
WE CAN GO ANYWHERE.
WE CAN DO ANYTHING.
I MOSTLY STUCK TO
DOGS TILL NOW, BUT
BOB MADE A PRETTY
CONVINCING
ARGUMENT...

"...A BITCH IS
A BITCH IS A
BITCH."

BLAM



NOW,
DON'T
WORRY--
WHEN WE'RE
THROUGH
YOU WON'T
FEEL A
THING.

LET US
IN
OUT
THROUGH,
JOHN!

...need...
help...

YES!
GOOD IDEA
#325--



"WE'RE
IN THIS
TOGETHER,
PARTNER."

THE MARTIAN
LOOKS--

--just looks--

--AT THE ONE WITH THE
SAW, AND ALL ELECTRICAL
ACTIVITY IN HIS BRAIN
IMMEDIATELY STOPS.



GOOD OLD
BOB. "THE MAN
WITH THE HOLE FOR
A HEAD." BEST
FRIEND I EVER
HAD.

HE LET
ME IN ON
THE BIG
SECRET.



"SEE, IT WAS ALWAYS GOING
TO HAPPEN THIS WAY. WE
DON'T HAVE ANY SAY IN
THE MATTER. NOT YOU, NOT
ME. NOT EVEN BOB."



YOUR
HUSBAND
CAN'T HELP YOU.
THE **GREEN** GUY
CAN'T HELP
YOU.

NO ONE
CAN HELP
YOU.

CLICK



THE SUN
WILL NEVER
RISE. NO
ONE'S
COMING.

NO ONE
SEES.
NOT EVEN
GOD.



ISN'T THAT
FREEING?



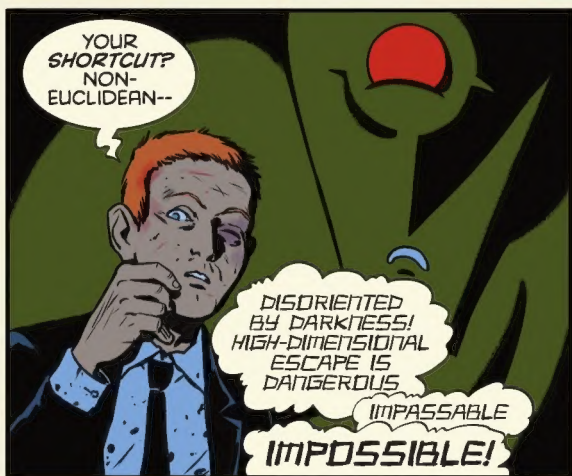
WE ALONE,
IN ALL OF
HUMAN HISTORY,
WILL NOT BE
JUDGED.

TOC

THOUGH
SOMEHOW I GET
THE FEELING THAT
IF HE *DID* SEE, HE'D
APPROVE.







SOMEWHERE
VERY HIGH UP--
SPIRITUALLY HIGH,
ALL BURNING SYMBOL
AND MEANING--
I CAN FEEL TWO
MARTIANS FIGHTING
OVER MIDDLETON.



FOR THEM--
things made
of pure mind--
IT CAN ALL
GET A LITTLE
ABSTRACT.

A PUNCH IS
NOT JUST
A PUNCH UP
THERE. IT'S A
METAPHOR.

Although that
particular metaphor
looked like it hurt.



DOWN HERE,
EVERYTHING'S
MORE LITERAL.

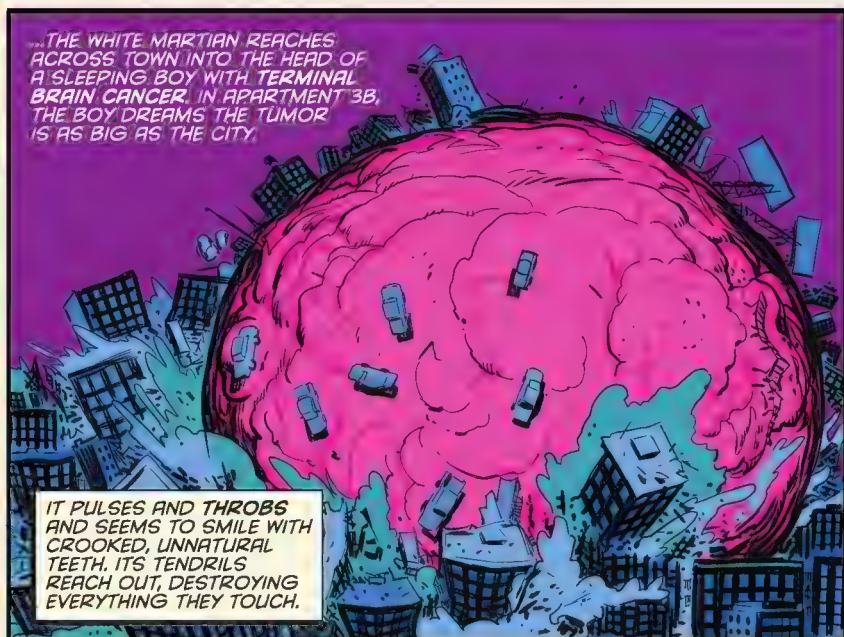
A PUNCH
IS JUST A
PUNCH.



VIOLENCE IS
JUST VIOLENCE.



AS THE MAN
IN THE CLOWN
JACKET TRIES TO
SPILL MY BRAIN
OUT, ONTO THE
HARDWOOD...



...THE WHITE MARTIAN REACHES
ACROSS TOWN INTO THE HEAD OF
A SLEEPING BOY WITH TERMINAL
BRAIN CANCER, IN APARTMENT 3B.
THE BOY DREAMS THE TUMOR
IS AS BIG AS THE CITY.

IT PULSES AND THROBS
AND SEEMS TO SMILE WITH
CROOKED, UNNATURAL
TEETH. ITS TENDRILS
REACH OUT, DESTROYING
EVERYTHING THEY TOUCH.



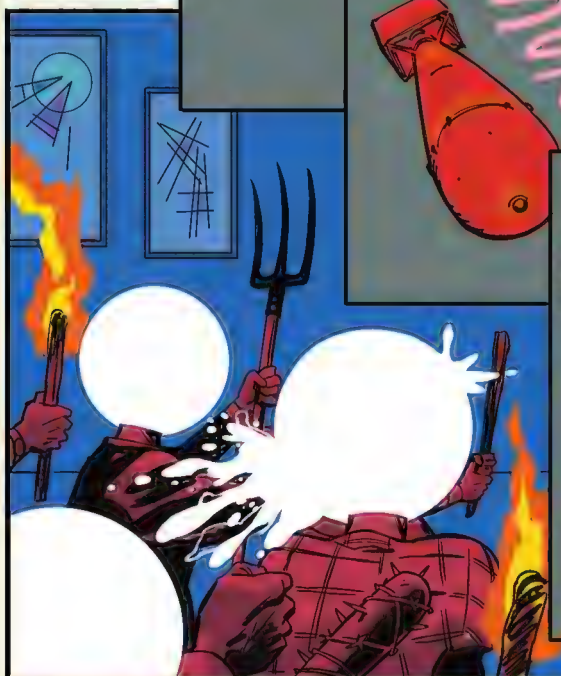
IN RESPONSE, THE GREEN
MARTIAN PULLS OUT THE
REVOLUTIONARY BRAIN-CANCER
CURE THAT THE YOUNG GIRL IN
4D OF THAT VERY SAME
BUILDING WILL HELP DEVELOP
TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW.



ENOUGH!

CHUD
CHUD
CHUD
CHUD

NEXT, THE WHITE MARTIAN PLUCKS OUT FEAR OF THE ATOMIC BOMB FROM AN AGING HIPPIE. A THOUSAND UPTURNED FACES AS DEATH TRACES A SCREAMING RAINBOW ACROSS THE SKY.



THE GREEN MARTIAN SCRAMBLES TO MAKE ONE SMALL CHANGE, TAPPING INTO THAT SAME HIPPIE'S BELIEF IN MILITARY INCOMPETENCE--





THE WAR OF GREEN AND WHITE UNFOLDS THE SKY INTO ALIEN GEOMETRIES AND NONSENSE EMOTIONS.

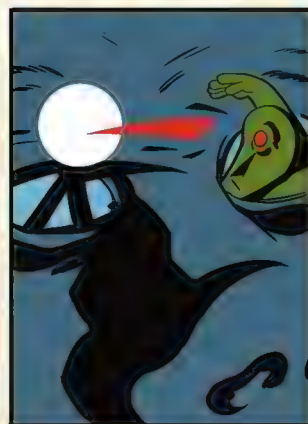
WITH INCOMPREHENSIBLE "THESIS/ANTITHESIS" WEAPONS, LIVING PHILOSOPHIES DEBATE THE LIFE AND DEATH OF WORLDS.



REALITY'S CRUMBLING INFRASTRUCTURE IS COLLATERAL DAMAGE.



EVERY MIND IN MIDDLETON BECOMES A BATTLEGROUND.



ME, I STAY RIGHT HERE.



AND LET NOTHING GET BY.



THINGS STOPPED MAKING SENSE A WHILE AGO.

WHITE FLAG OF VICTORY WAVING! SPECIES-WIDE TRAGEDY-ENDING IMMINENT!

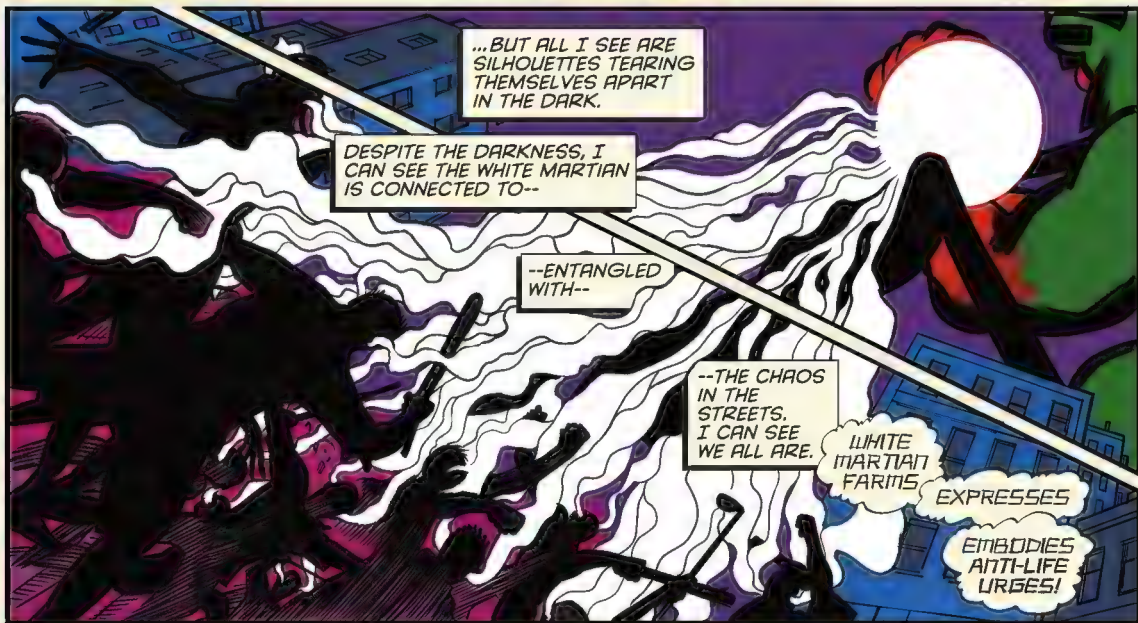


EXPAND
EVOLVE

ENHANCE
YOUR VIEW!!
SEE ALL TO
SAVE ALL!



MARTIAN
VISION ON ON ON



...BUT ALL I SEE ARE SILHOUETTES TEARING THEMSELVES APART IN THE DARK.

DESPITE THE DARKNESS, I CAN SEE THE WHITE MARTIAN IS CONNECTED TO--

--ENTANGLED WITH--

--THE CHAOS IN THE STREETS. I CAN SEE WE ALL ARE.

WHITE MARTIAN
FARMS EXPRESSES

EMBODIES ANTI-LIFE URGES!



WHY DO WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?



WHY DID I PUSH THEM AWAY, WHEN ALL I WANTED WAS TO HOLD ON TILL MY KNUCKLES TURNED WHITE?



WHO WAS I PROTECTING? THEM? OR MYSELF?



WHAT WAS I SO AFRAID OF?



BLAM



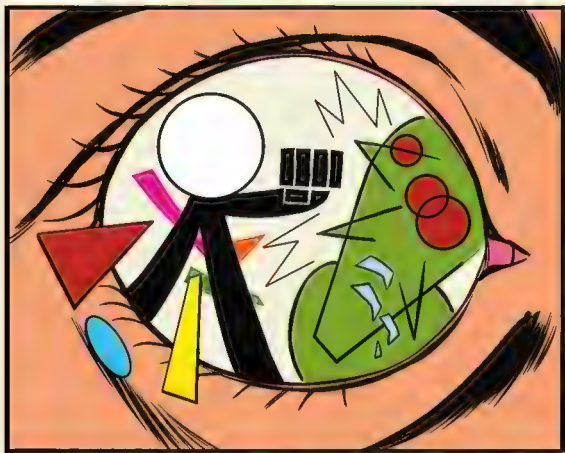
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM



Bridget?

WE'RE A TEAM, JOHN.

WHY COULDN'T I JUST TALK TO MY WIFE?





EPIPHANIC
BREAKTHROUGH!

PARTIAL
CONSCIOUSNESS
EXPANSION
ACHIEVED

INITIATED!
UNLOCKED

Whoa...

JOHN?

MARTIAN
VISION ON
VIZ
UPGRADE



AND SUDDENLY
IT'S CLEAR AS
DAY. I SEE ALL
OF MIDDLETON...

...THE PEOPLE ON THE
STREETS, AT LEAST
THREE-QUARTERS MAD...



...RUNNING FROM
THEIR OWN SHADOWS...

...FIGHTING FIRE
AND LOSS, SEEING
SENSELESS VIOLENCE
EVERYWHERE
THEY TURN...



...INCOMPREHENSIBLE
FORCES CLASHING
ON BATTLEFIELDS
BETWEEN THEIR EARS...



...AS THEIR
BEAUTIFUL,
BRIGHTLY
COLORED
LIVES SPILL
OUT OF THEM.







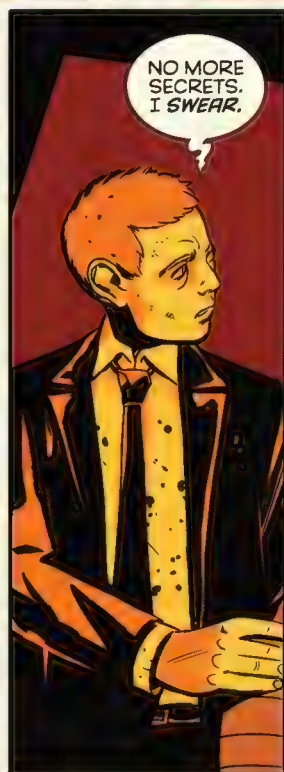
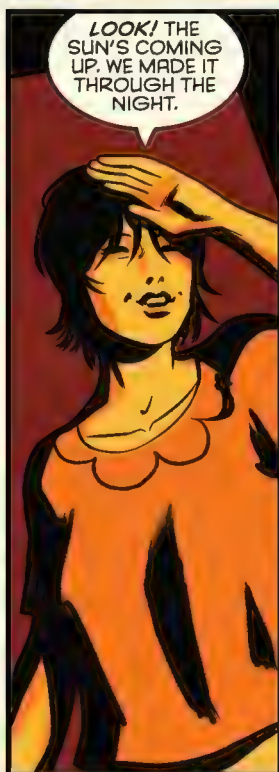
THE UNIVERSE FLICKERS
WHITE FALTERS EVER SO
SLIGHTLY. GREEN SURGES,
SEEING ITS CHANCE.



SOMETHING INEXPRESSIBLE
HAPPENS. THE MIND TRIES
TO MAKE SENSE OF IT
THROUGH METAPHOR.

WORDS
FAIL.

SLASH
SH



MESSAGE TO MY FELLOW MARTIANS:

To activate **YOUR** Martianvision, please take **page 19** of the comic book in your hands and hold it up to the light! Use a lamp, a reading light, or the sun itself--it's up to you! See diagram for details!







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Joseph Samachson and Joe Certa

To be
**CON
TIN
UED.**

"I WANT YOU
TO KNOW WHO
I REALLY AM."

TO BE
CON
TIN
UED.

Illustration by Jonathan Fitch
and Joe Cifra
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Hudson's Bay
Company

Illustration by
Mark Chiswick
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Company

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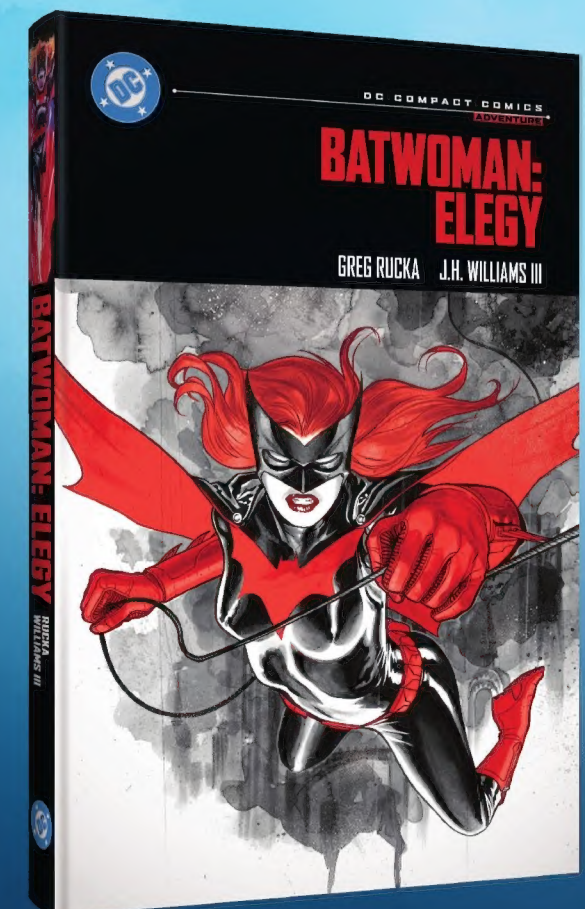
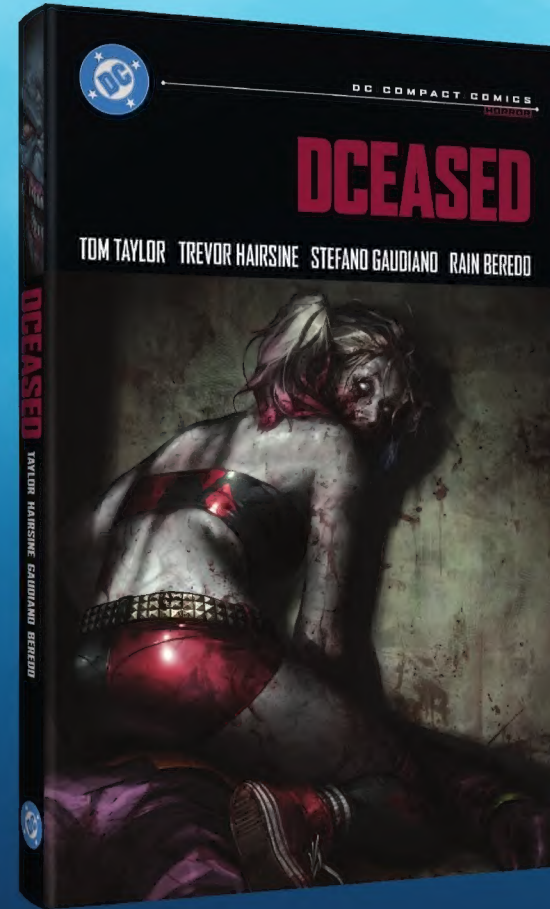
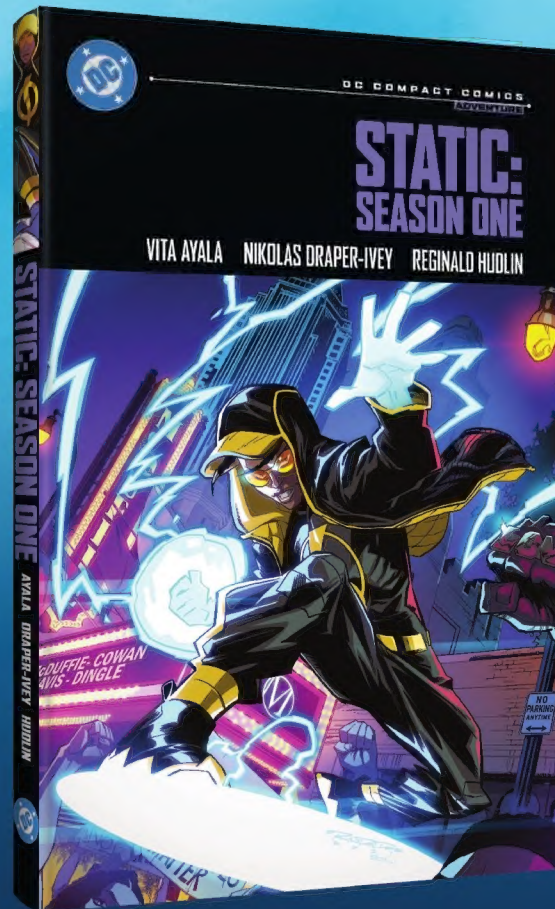
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Javier Rodriguez
for
Hudson's Bay
Company

Illustration by
Javier Rodriguez
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**NATION****SPOTLIGHT ON****ALL IN**

INTERVIEW WITH MATT FRACTION

Returning to a monthly DC series for the first time since the Eisner Award-winning *Superman's Pal Jimmy Olsen*, writer Matt Fraction talks his plans as the new *Batman* series writer—the dream job he's trained for since he was three—and teaming with superstar artist Jorge Jiménez, someone who is very familiar with the Gotham City streets.

What is your vision for the series and the character?

Matt Fraction: Between the end of Chip Zdarsky and Jorge Jiménez's run and where things are in *HZSH*, it felt like a moment for a new day in Gotham. We got a new Batmobile, we got a new costume, we got new characters.

This is the book that brought me into comics. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for *Batman*. It was the first comic I ever read. Some part of me has been waiting to this since I was three, and I have a lot of ideas and cool stories to tell. And it's a new #1! There's only been three or four of those!



How are you looking to approach the tone of the book?

Part of the reason *Batman* has lasted as long and has resonated as loudly as he has as a character is because he's incredibly resilient. He can be all kinds of things to all different people all at the same time, whether in comics, animation, or movies.

To me, [the new *Batman* series] is *Batman* central. It's a very superhero forward take on *Batman*. There's a lot of detective-ing, there's a lot of supervillains. All the stuff that makes *Batman* the coolest character in comics. I want to celebrate it all and give it all a chance to shine.

We're doing self-contained issues. Each issue is a full beginning, middle, end, and builds as the series goes. Every issue is a new adventure, a new style, a new flavor, a new take.



What's it like working with Jorge Jiménez?

He's a dream. He's incredible. He's fast. He's brilliant. There's nothing I've thrown at him so far that he's not been able to draw. Both of us are trying to make this the *Batman* book we most wish we can read in the world, and it's a whole lot of fun.



Which villains are you excited to write?

Killer Croc is in the first issue. Croc has gone through some changes with all the changes happening in Gotham. We have new villains coming—a lot of classic villains as well.



**DON'T MISS
BATMAN #1,
ON SALE SEPTEMBER!**

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